

HTICC Juvenile: Data Subcommittee

08.06.19

In attendance: JoAnn Santangelo (Family Court), Carrie Hyla (DSCYF), Jenn Perry (IC), Brittany Willard (OCA), Colleen Woodall (DFS), Haris Ahmed (DFS), Kim Abrams (DFS), Bri Gannon (Statistical Analysis Center (skype))

Introductions and Background information:

JoAnn welcomed the group and introductions were made. Carrie provided background information on the Human Trafficking Interagency Coordinating Council (HTICC). The HTICC first began focusing on adult instances of human trafficking and recognized there needed to be a focus on juvenile concerns. The Juvenile HTICC Subcommittee has been meeting since last summer and a decision was made for subcommittees to be created to mirror the adult HTICC subcommittees. Where data is concerned, juvenile has better information as DFS is already capturing this information and have the ability to look for any hotspots or trends.

Juvenile Trafficking:

JTAC Form

The Juvenile Trafficking Pre-Assessment Checklist (JTAC) form was created by the HTICC to track cases of juvenile trafficking in Delaware. It is currently available electronically in APRICOT. The office of the Investigation Coordinator (IC) does not currently receive copies of the JTAC when it is completed. The juvenile HTICC committee is having discussions regarding changes to the JTAC form as it is not evidence based and there are other states (Colorado and New Hampshire) that are and being reviewed. The data subcommittee will wait for information from the HTICC committee before further discussing the JTAC form and how best to track this information.

Current Trafficking Data

JoAnn shared some information on the data that is being collected through IC. Currently, IC will receive information from the DFS hotline and then will screen to determine if the cases meet the trafficking requirements. The data is from information collected from February 2018 through June 2019 and includes 122 cases. About 37% did not fall into IC Purview while 17% were accepted for trafficking. There was discussion that some of the not in IC purview cases tended to include a lot of DV cases, this may be due to the trafficking checkbox being very close to the DV box. Colleen indicated that they are making changes to the form in FOCUS and will include trafficking as a dedicated maltreatment type. These changes should be occurring soon but no date by could be confirmed. IC can track the cases through both civil and criminal unless out of state so cases involving DFS custody will have more information

Kim reported that there is a section in NCAN for sex trafficking that does go to the feds. There may be some cases that are reported for NCAN but are not sent to IC as there was not hotline report. There was discussion on how best to "marry" these two data points, the NCAN report and the hotline reports. Additionally, there are some cases that are abridged as the incident itself took place out of state but the child is in DFS custody and is documented in the child plan and child review as sex trafficking, so this also may not match the numbers that are sent with the NCAN or sent to IC.

Next Steps:

- Kim and Haris will send the NCAN data regarding identified sex trafficking victims as well as the data from the child plan and review for cases identified as human or sex trafficking
- JoAnn will work with Jen and Carrie to review other state methods of tracking cases involved sex trafficking.